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Nº. XXVI.

Observations made on the Old French Landing at Presqu' Isle, to determine the Latitude of the Town of Erie. In a Letter from ANDREW ELLICOTT, to ROBERT PATTERSON Secretary of the Society.

Philadelphia, Sept. 15th, 1796.

DEAR SIR,

Read Sept. 16, 1796. **T**HE following observations were made on the old French landing at Presqu' Isle to determine the latitude of the Town of Erie on Lake Erie. The instrument I used was a small zenith sector of 20 inches radius.

Plane of the Sector East, 1795.

September 1st	{	Zenith distance	α Lyræ	3° 29' 49" S
		Do.	δ Cygni	2 32 28 N
		Do.	Capella	3 39 53 N
4	{	Do.	α Lyræ	3 29 46 S
		Do.	δ Cygni	2 32 34 N
		Do.	Capella	3 39 50 N
5	{	Do.	α Lyræ	3 29 44 S
		Do.	δ Cygni	2 32 22 N
		Do.	Capella	3 39 47 N

Plane of the Sector West.

6	{	Do.	α Lyræ	3° 33' 53 S
		Do.	δ Cygni	2 28 8 N
		Do.	Capella	3 35 35 N
9	{	Do.	α Lyræ	3 34 1 S
		Do.	δ Cygni	2 28 7 N
		Do.	Capella	3 35 44 N
10	{	Do.	α Lyræ	3 34 1.5 S
		Do.	δ Cygni	2 28 0 N

From these observations the latitude of the landing appears to be 42° 8' 17" N. and the beginning of the Town being about
G g 2 309 feet

309 feet south from the landing, the latitude of the beginning of the Town must be $42^{\circ} 8' 14''$ N.—The magnetic variation at the Town of Erie when the foregoing observations were made, was $0^{\circ} 43'$ East.

I am, Sir, with respect

Yours, &c.

ANDREW ELLICOTT.

To Mr. Robert Patterson.

Nº. XXVII.

Hints relative to the Stimulant Effects of Camphor upon Vegetables. By BENJAMIN SMITH BARTON, M. D.

Read Sept.
16, 1796.

THE stimulant effects of camphor upon the human and some other animal bodies, are well known: but I have not met with any experiments concerning the influence of this singular substance upon living vegetables. Perhaps, the following loose hints on this subject may not be entirely unworthy of the notice of the Philosophical Society. I shall not fail to pursue the inquiry, at a future period.

On the 25th of last May, I put a piece of the woody stem of the Tulip-tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*) with one flower and two leaves, into eight ounces of water, with which I had triturated, for some time, one scruple of good camphor. The branch, which I speak of, was taken out of a pot of water, which contained several other flowers of the same plant, all, to appearance, in the same state. In a short time, I was struck with an unusually lively appearance of the flower in the camphor, whilst the others, although they had the benefit of a larger quantity of water, were sensibly drooping. The appearances exhibited by my invigorated plant were the following: